

Application No. 10/723,974
Amendment dated 9 September 2005
Reply to Office Action dated 9 March 2005

Attorney Docket No. 5703-00059

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please replace the entire Abstract with the following:

~~The present invention provides a molded plastic adapter with an overmolded metallic plate, wherein the plastic adapter is fashioned to attach with an airbag retainer body. The molded plastic adapter includes sidewalls and a substantially planar flange projecting from the sidewalls. The adapter further includes a plurality of apertures formed in at least one of the sidewalls, for receipt of mounting hooks on the retainer body.~~

An adapter comprises a peripheral wall incorporating a plurality of apertures adapted to cooperate with a corresponding plurality of hooks depending from side walls of an airbag retainer. A flange projecting from the peripheral wall provides for attaching the adapter and airbag retainer to a vehicle instrument panel. The adapter incorporates an opening therethrough defined by the peripheral wall, through which the airbag is deployed. In one aspect, the peripheral wall is discontinuous.